

Section III. (Amendments to the Claims)

Claims 1-2, 4-7, and 12 have been hereby amended.

Claims 3 and 8-11 are retained without change.

1. (Currently amended) A contour collimator for radiation therapy comprising a plurality of diaphragm elements having two front and back sides and a first and a second terminal portion portions that are opposite to each other, wherein the diaphragm elements are arranged in a fan formation and are arranged movably with respect to each other, such movement being powered by a drive unit for each diaphragm element; and wherein the each diaphragm elements are is supported only on the first terminal portion of the diaphragm element that is positioned near the respective drive unit.
2. (Currently amended) The contour collimator according to claim 1, wherein the first terminal portion of the diaphragm elements are each diaphragm element is furnished with a toothed rack communicatively connected to that operates in conjunction with the respective drive unit.
3. (Previously presented) The contour collimator according to claim 2, further comprising a guide for the diaphragm elements that is disposed directly adjacent to the drive unit.
4. (Currently amended) The contour collimator according to claim 3 further comprising a loose bedding that is provided for each diaphragm elements element on the second terminal portion of the diaphragm elements element opposite to the respective drive unit.
5. (Currently amended) The contour collimator according to claim 1, wherein at least two diaphragm elements are arranged with some separation therebetween, opposite and slightly offset relative to one another, and movably towards one another in more than half the distance of separation.
6. (Currently amended) The contour collimator according to claim 1, wherein the longitudinal axes of at least two diaphragm elements, which extend from the respective drive units to respective sides opposite to said drive units, form an angle over the distance from the drive unit to their facing side so that the diaphragm elements are arranged in a fan formation.

7. (Currently amended) The contour collimator according to claim 3, wherein the first terminal portion of ~~a~~ at least one diaphragm element ~~in the area of~~ near the drive unit in the direction of movement of the diaphragm element is longer than ~~its opposite side~~ the second terminal portion.
8. (Previously presented) The contour collimator according to claim 1, wherein at least two diaphragm elements form a diaphragm group which is arranged movably in the direction of movement of the diaphragm elements in addition to the movement of individual diaphragm elements.
9. (Previously presented) The contour collimator according to claim 8, wherein two diaphragm groups are arranged opposite one another in the direction of movement of the diaphragm elements and movably towards one another on guide rails.

10. (Previously presented) The contour collimator according to claim 1, wherein the drive unit is equipped with a rotary potentiometer to record the position of the diaphragms.
11. (Previously presented) The contour collimator according to claim 1, wherein the drive units are arranged parallel to each other.
12. (Currently amended) The contour collimator according to claim 2, wherein ~~the toothed rack operates in conjunction with~~ the drive unit ~~comprising~~ comprises a gear wheel driven perpendicularly to the direction of movement of the diaphragms, and wherein said gear wheel is driven over the toothed rack on the first terminal portion of the diaphragm element to translate the diaphragm element.